

Montgomery Cares Advisory Board

May 22, 2019 Meeting Notes

MCAB Members Present: Betsy Ballard, Julia Doherty, Stephen Gammarino, Dr. Travis Gayles, Lynda Honberg, Yuchi Huang, Peter Lowet, Marie Mann, D. Maria Rice, Langston Smith, Wayne Swann

MCAB Members Absent: Sybil Greenhut, Sharron Holquin, T.J. Senker,

DHHS Staff: Magda Brown, Tara Clemons, LaSonya Kelly

County Council Staff: Linda McMillan

Primary Care Coalition: Marisol Ortiz, Chantal Roache, Hillery Tumba

Guest: Diana Saladani *on behalf of T.J. Senker*, Crystal Townsend (Healthcare Initiative Foundation)

The Chair, Steve Gammarino, called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm

Item		Action Follow-up	Person Assigned	Due Date
1.	<p>Chair Report</p> <p>Steve highlighted the agenda items and mentioned that the Grant Letter draft needed to be discussed. He also noted that the Board would go over the mid-year (calendar) review and begin outlining the priorities for the September 2019 planning meeting.</p>		Steve Gammarino	
2.	<p>Health Care for the Uninsured Report</p> <p>See Report and handout</p> <p><u>Monthly Status Report</u></p> <p>Tara reviewed the data for the Health Care for the Uninsured programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Montgomery Cares has served 23,782 patients through April with a total of 60,271 patient visits at the ten participating clinics. Year to date, the clinics have expended 86% of the FY19 budgeted amount for encounters, the benchmark for April is 83%. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UPDATED Clinic Encounters – for FY19, we are funded at 70,000 encounters and currently projecting 72,000 encounters by years end (up from last month by 800 encounters based on utilization trends). This mean an additional \$149,000 dollars needed if the utilization trend continues (In FY18, the program went over encounters by 4,497 visits.) 		Tara Clemons	

- MCares Eligibility Transition - the workgroups have met around 3 times each. The next stakeholders meeting will be May 29th at the County Council office building.

- **Care for Kids** has enrolled 1,074 new children from July through April. We continue to see a higher number of new enrollees compared to last year by 9%. PCC and HHS staff are actively engaging with non-profits and community groups providing education and guidance on the program. Staff most recently engaged with the Montgomery County all volunteer group, Direct Support for Immigrants. They are committed to assisting the local immigrant population on various issues and have prioritized health care access for children.
- **The Maternity Partnership Program's** enrollment through April was 1,238 teens and women, a -7% decrease in overall enrollment compared with this time last year. Program staff are face some challenges at the hospital. A hospital is demanding immediate payment of co-pay (billing office) and a case of potential negligence in a high-risk pregnancy. DHHS is actively addressing the issues to determine if they're isolated incidents or a larger issue.
- **Dental Services** has served 4,663 patients through April and provided 8,758 patient encounters at our clinics. The Dental Director is starting June 2nd, HHS is very happy to have the new person on board.
- The **Homeless Health** program has had a total of 161 patient visits through April, a -23% decrease over this time last year. Services to End and Prevent Homelessness (SEPH) and community providers have housed 416 homeless clients as of May 17, 2019. There are currently 12 chronically homeless people remaining to be housed. As of May 17, 2019, 51 homeless (chronically and vulnerable) individuals have moved to permanent housing since Jan 1, 2019.
- **County Health programs** (MPP, CFK, MCares, Senior Dental). Patients can be dually enrolled in County programs. For example, children can be seen through both CFK and Maternity Partnership. The County does not disenroll eligible persons, needed medical services can be provided by either program. This is also the case with Montgomery Cares/MPP/Senior Dental. Services can be provided through either program, coordination is encouraged to avoid duplication.

Discussion

- Julia and Wayne have participated in the MCares Eligibility Transition workgroups and will provide an update on the progress.
- It was discussed that additional data should be gathered on the Care for Kids such as the age of new children entering the program and the most common type of chronic conditions among enrollees.
- Dr. Gayles also reminded the Board that the previous leadership structure for the dental program is changing.
- Lynda wanted more information regarding the new dental medical director's background. Dr. Gayles mentioned that they were coming from a private practice and had also done some military work
- LaSonya informed the Board of the County's new 24/7 Homeless Information line. DHHS, in partnership

	<p>with EveryMind, has trained specialists to provide information on County homeless services and shelter resources. Callers can also provide information about the location of individuals in the community experiencing homelessness. The reports will be forwarded to community outreach partners who will attempt to locate the individual and offer support and resources. The information line number is 240-907-2688.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LaSonya also informed the Board that Homeless Resource Day will be held this year on November 21st It was noted that the Health Care for the Uninsured programs needs more connection to the non-profits and MCPS to gauge the needs of the vulnerable population. 			
3.	<p>Advocacy Workgroup Wrap-Up See handout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve and Tara mentioned that the final vote will take place May 23. Tara went over the requests vs. the approved budget Lynda noted that she was happy with the advocacy outcome, however, she was concerned about the rate increase not funded within CFK. 	Steve Gammarino		
4.	<p>Montgomery Cares 3rd Quarter Report See handout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth mentioned that the Making Health Happen: Stories About Car(e)ing which took place April 18th had been a great success and over four thousand dollars were raised for project access Julia questioned if the behavioral health data reported included just screenings or did it include clients who had received a full appointment. Elizabeth will get back to the Board with this information Elizabeth highlighted that Mercy Health Clinic had achieved PCMH (Patient Centered Medical Home) Status 	PCC Staff		
5.	<p>Approval of Minutes – March 27 and April 24, 2019</p> <p><i>Moved by Wayne Swann Secoded by Yuchi Huang</i> <i>The motion was approved unanimously.</i></p>	Steve Gammarino		
6.	<p>Special Committee: Eligibility Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julia reminded the Board that effective July 1st, MCares eligibility determination will be completed by OESS. She also mentioned that there are currently three workgroups (operations, communications and affordability) working on the new policy and its implementation. The affordability workgroup is scheduled to meet in June regarding residents eligible for a Qualified Health Program (QHP). Wayne noted that he has been participating in the Communication workgroup. The approval and welcome letter have been created along with other tools. There are still questions regarding patient flow and how eligibility for other services will be determined. 	Julia Doherty/Wayne Swann		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Julia mentioned that the most pressing issue is the fact that none of the information discussed has been provided in writing. There has been little documentation made available. Additionally, PCC has been mapping out workflows for the clinics/OESS but it still unclear from OESS how they will interact with clinics. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lynda expressed concerns about the fact that the deadline is only 5 weeks away ▪ Elizabeth (PCC) has been gathering data regarding space and availability from the clinics. She is waiting on a few responses and will be able to send the information to OESS for scheduling. ▪ Marie shared concern on monitoring the success (or lack thereof) and the need to access the impact on patients. A report should be generated of data trends to be shared. Dr. Gayles stated that having OESS complete the eligibility process will yield a data repository where more and accurate data is gathered providing opportunities for enhanced reporting. He also reassured board members that staff are aware of the many challenges ▪ The concern about Public Charge was mentioned and the fear that exist in the community based on the political (federal) landscape. 			
7.	<p>Grant Letter Feedback</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Steve Gammarino</p> <p>Steve asked the Board for any feedback on the draft grant letter to be sent to the HHS committee. This goal is to share the views and opinions of the Board of the CE and Council current grant process and suggestions/recommendations for change. The HHS committee will hold the grants session July 11th.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There was consensus among board members that recurrent requests should not be allowed. ▪ There was also discussion regarding reviewing grants that have been in place for 7+ years. It was noted that some requests need to stay in place because of the type of program that it is, and some are because there is no way to add it to their base payment ▪ It was agreed that the letter should be sent to Council President Nancy Navarro and copy to Carolyn Chenn and CC the County Executive. The letter should go out no later than June 15th. 			
8.	<p>MCAB Strategic Planning --FY19 Year in Review --FY20 Retreat Planning</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Steve mentioned that there will be a poll sent out regarding the meeting date for either September 18th or 25th. He also requested that the meeting be held at the same location as last year. ▪ Steve suggested that an invitation be extended to the new Dental Director as well as the County Council HHS Committee Chair Gabe Albornoz to attend the July and/or September’s planning meeting ▪ Linda McMillan mentioned that DHHS may have their new Director before the planning meeting and an 			

	<p>invitation should be extended to that individual as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Langston questioned if there was data reflecting the impact on the clinics for substance abuse and behavioral health. It would be good to understand what is being done in the County and if there should be a system in place for universal screening of substance abuse. Marie requested that substance abuse/behavioral health information be made available for MPP, MCares and CFK ▪ There was a recommendation that the Board consider the intersection with schools in regards to connectivity and resources for students and families. 			
9.	<p>May 2019 Agenda & Next Steps</p> <p>The next meeting will be June 26, 2019.</p>	Steve Gammarino		
10	<p>Meeting Adjourned at 8:29pm</p> <p><i>Motion to adjourn: Julia Doherty</i> <i>Seconded: Lynda Honberg</i> <i>Unanimously approved</i></p>			

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Clemons
Montgomery Cares Advisory Board